

§Appl. No. 09/646,924
Amdt. dated June 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action of, December 15, 2004

Listing of Claims:

Please **amend** the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method of screening a substance for usefulness in the treatment of a lipid metabolism dysfunction comprising contacting said substance with a ~~ROR α~~ receptor, or a response element of human ROR α located at position -198 to +24 of the human apo C-III promoter involved in the regulation of the apo C-III gene, and measuring the level of apo C-III gene expression or the level of expression of a reporter gene placed under the control of a promoter comprising said response element.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The method of screening according to claim 1 9, wherein the reporter gene is chosen from chloramphenicol acetyltransferase, the gene for luciferase from firefly or from Renilla, the gene for secreted alkaline phosphatase, the gene for beta-galactosidase or the gene for apo C-III.

Claim 11 (Cancelled)

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Claim 12 (Currently Amended) The method of screening according to claim 13, wherein the effect of said substance on the expression of said apo C-III or reporter gene is determined using transfection or analysis of mRNAs *in vitro* or on models *in vitro* or *in vivo*.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Cancelled)

Claim 19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Cancelled)

Claim 22 (Currently Amended) A method of measuring the expression of the apo C-III gene, comprising contacting a substance with a ~~ROR- α receptor or a~~ response element of the ROR α receptor ~~located at position -198 to +24 of the apo C-III promoter or a nuclear factor which couples ROR- α to a RNA polymerase complex,~~ and then measuring:

i) the binding of said substance ~~to the ROR- α receptor or the binding of the complex formed by the said substance and the ROR- α receptor~~ to the response element ~~or to a nuclear factor which couples ROR- α to a RNA polymerase complex;~~

or

ii) the modulation of the transcriptional activity of a gene placed under the control of a promoter comprising said response element.

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Claim 23 (Cancelled)

Claim 24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) A method of screening a substance for usefulness in the treatment of a lipid metabolism dysfunction comprising,
contacting said substance with a ~~ROR α receptor~~, and a response element of ROR α ~~located at position -198 to +24~~ of the apo C-III promoter involved in the regulation of the apo C-III gene, and
and measuring the binding of said receptor to said response element.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented) A method of claim 25, wherein the measuring is performed by the gel retardation method.

Claim 27 (Cancelled)

Claim 28 (Cancelled)

Claim 29 (Cancelled)

Claim 30 (Cancelled)

Claim 31 (New) A method of claim 1, wherein the level of apo C-III gene expression is measured.

Claim 32 (New) A method of claim 1, wherein the level of a reporter gene expression is measured.